

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031398

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, GE, FR, GW, US

SUBJECT: US/GDR CONSULAR DISCUSSIONS

1. AT BEGINNING OF FEB. 11 MEETING, US SIDE NOTED THAT THE BOTH DELEGATIONS HAD DISCUSSED THE NATIONALITY ISSUE IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL ON PREVIOUS DAY. WE PROPOSED TO BYPASS IT TEMPORARILY, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT EITHER SIDE COULD RETURN TO IT ANY TIME ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE. GDR GROUP READILY ACCEPTED THIS.

2. FEB. 11 WAS SPENT IN DISCUSSING ARTICLES 2-19 OF GDR DRAFT AND CORRESPONDING ARTICLES OF US DRAFT. MOST OF THE DIFFERENCES SEEM RECONCILABLE, AND WILL BE DEALT WITH SUBSEQUENTLY BY REDRAFTING TO HARMONIZE LANGUAGE.

3. GENERAL AIM OF BOTH SIDES AT THIS STAGE IS TO ACHIEVE JOINT READING OF BOTH TEXTS TO IDENTIFY DIFFERENCES, RECONCILE OR REDUCE THEM, AND THEN TO BEGIN REDRAFTS. REDRAFTS WOULD THEN BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRIES

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PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING, WHICH EAST GERMANS WANT TO BE IN BERLIN.

4. EAST GERMANS HAVE INDICATED THEY MAY WANT TO STAY ONE OR TWO DAYS INTO NEXT WORK WEEK, AND WE HAVE AGREED IN

PRINCIPLE. HOWEVER, LIKELIHOOD NOW SEEMS STRONG THAT WE WILL BASICALLY FINISH OUR JOINT REVIEW BY END OF THIS WEEK.

5. KLOBES TOLD US INFORMALLY THAT HE PLANS TO PASS ON SOME INFORMATION ON HUMANITARIAN CASES ON FEB. 12. INGERSOLL

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